Validity of laws placed in the Ninth Schedule of the Constitution

*4. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:
SHRI AMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to review the Constitution of India in the wake of recent Supreme Court order which lays down that all laws placed in the Ninth Schedule after 1973 would be open to judicial review;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, in what manner Government propose to resolve the reservation policy of Tamil Nadu Government which has made reservation to the extent of 69 per cent?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) to (c) The Government is analysing the judgement of the Supreme Court in the matter of I.R. Coelho (Dead) By LRs V. State of Tamil Nadu & Ors. reported in JT 2007 (2) SC 292 and will take appropriate decision in the matter.

Increase in the number of Anganwadis

*5. SHRI K.E. ISMAIL: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Supreme Court has ordered Government to take measures to increase the number of Anganwadis from the present six lakhs to fourteen lakhs in a phased manner by 2008 in order to realize the commitment made in the Common Minimum Programme of UPA Government to universalize the ICDS Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the measures being taken by Government;

(c) whether it is a fact that some State Governments have failed to implement the earlier orders of the Supreme Court in this regard; and

(d) if so, which are the States lagging behind in implementing the ICDS Scheme and what action is being taken against these States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Supreme Court, *vide* its order dated 13.12.2006 in CWP No. 196/2001-filed by People's Union for Civil Liberties (PUCL) Vs.Union of India and Others, directed, *inter-alia,* the Union Government, to sanction and operationalise a minimum of 14 lakh Anganwadi Centres (AWCs) in a phased and even manner starting forthwith and ending December 2008. In doing so, the Central Government shall identify SC and ST hamlets/ habitations for AWC on a priority basis.

In pursuance of this direction and to fulfil the commitment enunciated in the National Common Minimum Programme of the Government, to have a functional Anganwadi Centre in every settlement/habitation, all the States/ UTs have been requested to furnish a list of un-covered habitations, along with population, which would require additional Anganwadi Centres (AWCs) Mini-AWCs in their States, In doing so they have also been requested to identify SC and SC hamlets/habitations for setting up AWCs and to ensure that no habitation/settlement with predominantly SC/ST Minority population is left out.

In addition, to achieve Universalisation of ICDS the existing population norms are being revisited and further action for working out the requirement of additional ICDS projects/AWCs/Mini-AWCs to universalize the ICDS Scheme will be taken once the new population norms are in place.

(c) and (d) As per the Supreme Court's order, 9 States/UTs namely, Bihar, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Manipur, Punjab, West Bengal, Assam, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh are relatively lagging behind in the implementation of the ICDS Scheme. The Chief Secretaries of these States have specifically been directed to appear before the Court to explain why the orders requiring full implementation of the Scheme were not obeyed.

The ICDS Scheme is a Centrally-sponsored scheme being implemented through the States/UTs. To increase the effectiveness of the delivery of services udner ICDS in the country including the 9 identified States, following steps have been taken by the Government:-

* All the States/UTs have been addressed by the Government to operationalise the recently sanctioned ICDS Projects and AWCs at the earliest.

* To strengthen the existing monitoring and supervision mechanism for ICDS Scheme, the Government of India has set up of a Central Monitoring Unit (CMU) at National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development (NIPCCD) to monitor the Scheme through independent professional organization/institution in each State/ UT. This is in addition to the monitoring mechanism in place at present.

* A National Level Monitoring Committee has also been set up under the Chairpersonship of Minister of State for Women and Child Development (Independent Charge) to oversee the entire functioning of ICDS Scheme and to ensure that the services are delivered to the target groups in an effective manner and the objectives of the scheme are fulfilled within the overall framework of the ICDS Scheme.

Prestigious Educational Institutions in different States

*6. SHRI PYARIMOHAN MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Centrally funded prestigious educaitonal institutions like IIT, MM, INT and Central Universities etc., located in different States, State-wise;

(b) the reasons for not establishing a single such institution in Orissa over the last 60 years since Independence;

(c) the norms for establishing such institutions adopted for the Eleventh Five Year Plan; and

(d) the reasons for not considering Orissa as a location inspite of the need to support the State's ambitious industrial development programme as well as education of nearly 40 per cent tribal and SC population of the State?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) A Statement showing the State-wise number of Centrally funded prestigious educational institutions is annexed (see below).

(b) It would not be correct to say that due consideration has not